

sports mirror

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North York sports section

November 22, 1972

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WESTVIEW'S Bob Hedges tries to dodge tacklers in North York's senior grid final. Pictures and stories, pages 2 and 3.

Staff photo: David Kopman

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 1972

Teachers should suggest alternatives

When the teachers walked off the job in North York yesterday, at least one among them had something sensible to say for himself. Jack Zimmerman of Westview Centennial Secondary, noted that the teachers' federation should be suggesting ways of cutting costs.

Teachers are intimately involved with the inner workings of the system and are in an excellent position to recommend economies that won't hurt the children. If the teachers don't like the savings proposed by boards of education, they ought to suggest alternatives as Helen Sweet, president of the Toronto Teachers' Federation, has done.

INSIGHT PAGE

Teachers could spend more time teaching: Trustee

By ANNE SPORN
Star staff writer

Almost 2,000 North York teachers left their jobs last week to demonstrate their concern about the quality of education in the borough's secondary schools.

George McCleary, the North York Board of Education chairman, is convinced too—but he says the teachers' action was "immoral" and their arguments were "hogwash."

The teachers walked out of their classrooms at 1 p.m. April 4 in darkness as "study sessions" where teaching in school before lunch, coffee and sustenance, they renewed their fight that the education of the children would suffer because of budget cuts.

McCleary called it a "strike"—the first ever held in Ontario schools.

It drew public attention, newspaper criticism and even a financial protest from the secondary school teachers who cancelled classes for 8,000 pupils.

The teachers said they were going for local money—for giving North York taxpayers the right to spend additional money on education.

The province has ruled exactly how much each school board can demand, and the teachers see this as a denial of local taxpayers' rights to spend more, if they wish.

The trustees, who responded by docking day-a-day pay last week of \$20 based on a 30-day teaching year, said the issue was really teacher work load.

"The whole study session" dealt with one thing—and was titled just "study-session," said McCleary, the deputy chair of the board of the North York board.

"It was a display of strength—quite to influence our decision as trustees," he said.

It didn't work because on Tuesday the board voted to raise the 1979-80 \$10.6 million increase in the pupil-teacher ratio in Metro's 100

secondary schools. The pupil-teacher ratio is simply the number of students per teacher.

The teachers are rallying tonight to decide on their counteraction. It could involve mass pickets against the school boards, such as teachers' "study sessions" or a week-long campaign, and might even lead to a voluntary pay cut, proposed by Scarborough teacher Dave Clark.

What is it about pupil-teacher ratios that makes some teachers consider a day in pay?

To the administrator, pupil-teacher ratio is merely a convenient measure for allocating money to local boards on an equalized, city-wide basis.

It is a mathematical formula, arrived at by dividing the number of pupils by the number of school staff who hold teaching certificates. It is not an exact indicator of class size, since each board has the freedom to deploy its staff as it pleases. So, in an effort, province trustees may reach closer in history or whatever, but at another, they may be far-aside conclusions.

In Metro, the pupil-teacher ratio in the secondary schools will rise in September to 18.7 students for each teacher from 18.5, putting it at the present provincial average.

The board administrator said that slight increase will not increase class size, since the estimated size of 125 students will be covered by assigned extra deputy teachers who have a lower than-average teaching load.

So far, it is a *de facto* class size. Province pointed out that at school staff-to-student, certificates are a teacher's work harder day.

But on the board's terms budgeting to meet provincial guidelines is not the teachers' job. They are to do their responsibility. We're just asking them to make a moral statement in productivity. It's not their job.

But while trustees, who can't reject a budget, may not be subject to time and motion study techniques, according to Bill Sullivan, a Member of Provincial Parliament, Secondary School must teacher and the man who first suggested the North York study session.

Teacher work load will be affected by an increase in work load, and that will indirectly affect children in the classroom, he said.

Because of the increase in the pupil-teacher ratio, a class is advanced mathematics for his experience or students will have to be re-created.

It will have less time to originate new courses, and to prepare



GEORGE MCCLEARY, North York School Board's tough chairman, says teachers' arguments against budget cuts are "hogwash" and "immoral."



DUANE DAGNAULT, president of the North York secondary school teachers' federation, says, "We intend to keep on fighting."

"We intend to keep on fighting," life said teachers are worried about the educational product.

lessons and mark exams and homework.

Teachers will be more fatigued and less able to meet the demands of their students, he argued. However, statistics show that the teachers' work load has actually decreased. In 1980, 36 per cent of the North York teachers taught for fewer than 26 periods a week, or less than 17 hours. (The typical school has 40 periods a week.)

But this school year, 58 per cent of North York teachers teach more than 17 hours a week. The provincial average shows 22 per cent of secondary school classes for less than 17 hours a week.

Duane Dagnault, president of the North York branch of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation, insists that work load or class size or pupil-teacher ratio do not comprise the real issue.

They are merely the effects of the provincial government's decision to not spending limits for all

school boards—a decision that is leaving the Metro area board to carry \$1 million more than their proposed 1982 operating budget of \$274 million. (This budget is up 10.4 million from last year, but is still not enough to pay the increased costs of salaries and services, the teachers argue.)

"The corporation has been credited to all we've interested in to the pupil-teacher ratio," Dagnault said. It is all about it. Yet, where he is a guidance counselor, "That's false. We've concerned with the results and how they affect the educational product."

He is convinced that Education Minister Tom Ivens will be more open-minded, if the public pressure is great enough.

He believes that local taxpayers should be referred the right to pay additional taxes for education, if that's what they want.

Where else does the government decide what a person can do

with his money? People should have the choice of spending their money in the way they think is best.

He said North York has been an educational leader in its taxpayers, through their school trustees. Have approved additional education taxes, where the basic Metro tax levy.

During their campaign to solicit support for their "study sessions," teachers were open to the public, the teachers warned of the possibility of a free effects from the provincial spending limits.

"Our children's educational future will be severely jeopardized," they said, in advertisements and flyers sent home with children.

They listed eight possible repercussions which were that school "elemental propaganda and hogwash" by McCleary.

The teachers said there could be significant increases in class size. Not so, said McCleary.

"They threatened possible reductions in psychological services, library services, classes for poor Canadians, and guidance personnel. It won't happen," said McCleary.

There will be some reduction in classroom teachers, but that won't affect class size. There will be some cuts in classroom support.

A few new courses will not be started, but that's because not enough students signed up. McCleary pointed out.

Ever since the teachers announced their "study session," McCleary has labeled it an "unresolvable crisis."

Not even every teacher supported it. One of them, John Deras at Victoria Park Secondary School, carried on but not during.

"My first duty is to my students and my second is to the board that employs me," he said later.

Most North York teachers are convinced they did the right thing.

by cancelling classes at 1 p.m. and "making the community lose the school."

People are now talking about the provincial rebuffs, said Deras.

"Do you think we'll get any headlines if the study session had been at 8 p.m.?"

But the North York teachers have had no support from any other teacher groups. They are facing an increase in pupil-teacher ratio, and there has been no further lowering of the college on spending.

"We intend to keep on fighting," said Dagnault. The 30-year-old president who took a 30 per cent cut in pay to return to teaching from industry five years ago.

The fight will heat up again in September, when teachers discipline their students at 100 schools, he said.

"And if we can't convince the community of our concerns, then we've lost the fight."

CLASS
OF
43?

BUTTON notes by teachers: Will budget cuts create larger classes?



What's happening Nora McCabe

in and Arabic music with the odd Nora Groves in by Walter Nishko's combo.

And then recorded Persian songs were put on, and one by one the women got up to dance. Sometimes they danced alone; sometimes in pairs; sometimes with the men who, at the right were on, peeled off their jackets and danced in their shirtsleeves.

The dances are sexy, sensuous creations which emphasize arm movements as well as abdominal writhings.

Everyone got in the act—including 5-year-old Alina Moushoun, a natural belly-dancer if ever there was one. Long after midnight,

Canadian singer Bruce Gotsberg sang folk songs in flawless Persian.

St. John Ambulance holds investiture

The Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem is better known to Canadians as an army of gray-uniformed men and women who man a large number of our ambulances and public first aid stations.

Saturday afternoon the order held its annual investiture ceremony—a ritual that dates back to the Crusades—in St. Paul's Anglican Church. Canon Robert Dunn officiated.

Toronto's Lorne R. Clark, the order's new financial committee chairman, and Norma Baker, who's served with the brigade for 22 years and is now Toronto's nursing superintendent, were made a serving brother and a serving sister—the first honorary ranks in the order.

Following the investiture ceremony there was a reception for the 44 Ontario brigade members honored for outstanding service in Lieutenant-Governor Ross Macdonald's Queen's Park suite. Since Macdonald is still in hospital recovering from an operation, his daughter Esther Marshall, took his place.

Also receiving were Commissioner L. H. Nicholson, chancellor of the priory of Canada, and Charles Dalton, president of the St. John Council for Ontario, and their wives.

Awarded the Grand Prior Badge for proficiency in 12 life-saving skills was 16-year-old Joseph Migaczko, a **Westview Collegiate** student who has been in the brigade for five years.

Industrial nurse Ellen Enber, a member of the Central Nursing Division 1, (the oldest nursing division in Toronto), was given a priory vote of thanks for devoting more than 300 hours to the brigade last year.

But the most exceptional award of the day went to retired Bell Canada engineer E. Ray Evans. Evans got his 30th certificate in first aid—probably a world first.

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head of the National Film Board
... Frankie Avalon replaces the
ailing Stan Kenton at the Beverly
Hills Motor Hotel Monday for a
week. But the Kenton band led by
Ken Hanna, his chief arranger, is to
appear Oct. 22 at the Palais Royale
and to conduct a music clinic that
day at **Westview Centennial** High
School. Kenton's number one Toron-
to fan, Peter Newman, editor of
Maclean's magazine, has written the
liner notes on the band's latest
album ... Tom Hendry's Toronto
Free Theatre, lacking suitable local
scripts, is turning to Hedda Gabler
as its next production, opening in
November when heating is installed
in the Berkeley St. building.

An unprecedented nine French-
language features are entered in

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Feb 22 1972

Adjudicator's praise for bands runs high

Adjudicator Kenneth Bray said last night that he has run out of superlatives to describe the calibre of band and orchestra competition he has been judging in the Kiwanis Music Festival.

In awarding the 18-piece **Westview Centennial Stage Band** from Downsview a score of 95 in the stage bands competition, Mr. Bray equalled the high mark he had given to the Barrie Collegiate Band on Saturday night.

"This is a remarkable band. You have shown tremendous musicianship," he said.

Monday's results:

PIANO

CLASS 48, PIANO SOLO, 11 years and under:

1. Cynthia Szabo, Hamilton; 2. Jennifer M. Woolley and Peter Eckstein (tie); 3. Murray Pickering.

CLASS 17B, PIANO SOLO, Girls, 15 years and under:

1. Karen Butler; 2. Suzanne Schwenger; 3. Susan Jay.

CLASS 51, PIANO SOLO, 18 years and under:

1. Christine Morli; 2. Stephen Knott; 3. Jamie Andrew Pearl.

CLASS 30A, PIANO SOLO, Girls, 18 years and under:

1. Janice Lin; 2. Laurie Pickering; 3. Nina Wu.

CLASS 8B, PIANO SOLO, BEE-THOVEN, Amateur or Professional:

1. Gary Arbou, Guelph; 2. Julius Dana; 3. Kathy Galvin.

CLASS 35B, PIANO SOLO, 15 years and under: 1. Cathy Heufeld, and Cynthia Szabo, Hamilton (tie); 2. Sam Caruso, Brampton, 3. Susan Sioflick.

CLASS 83, JUNIOR PIANO CONCERTO, 12 years and under:

1. Agla Grigoriadis, 2. Breffny Boyd, 3. Mee Hal Kim.

CLASS 82, JUNIOR PIANO CONCERTO, 14 years and under:

1. Cathy Heufeld, 2. Cynthia Szabo, Hamilton, 3. Robert Hegele.

VOICE

CLASS 337, FOLK SONGS, 20 yrs. and under, French Language:

1. Joanne Leach.

CLASS 587, ACCORDION SOLO, 12 years and under:

1. Yolanda Van Groofel, Whitby, 2. Linda Neumann, and Peggy Matthys, Port Hope (tie), 3. Franco Macri.

CLASS 584, ACCORDION SOLO, 15 years and under:

1. Mike Riemer, Bradford; 2. Eric Tenody, Whitby; 3. Brian Gatto, Oshawa.

CLASS 585, ACCORDION SOLO, 14 years and under:

1. Robert F. Berner; 2. David L. Armstrong, Oshawa; 3. Andre Ayotte, Oshawa.

CLASS 583, ACCORDION SOLO, 16 years and under:

1. Colleen Young, Barrie; 2. Joe Ringhofer; 3. Bryan Coker, Newmarket.

CLASS 607, ACCORDION DUET, 14 years and under:

1. David Armstrong, Andre Ayotte, Oshawa.

CLASS 606, ACCORDION DUET, 16 years and under:

1. Ben and Eddy Jellen, Oshawa.

CLASS 588, ACCORDION SOLO, 11 years and under:

1. Dolly Dimitrievich; 2. Christa Horung; 3. David Peter, Oshawa.

CHOIRS

CLASS 219, ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHOIRS, Grade 5:

1. Howard Public School (Jean Ashworth), 2. Humewood Jr. School (Donald Kennedy), 3. Richview Jr. School (Mrs. K. Fife).

CLASS 223, ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHOIRS, Grade 8, S.A.B.:

1. Fern Avenue Public School (David M. Legget), 2. Fern Avenue Public School (Choir 2) (David M. Legget), 3. Humber Valley Village School (Mrs. M. Dickson).

CLASS 221, ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHOIRS, Grade 7:

1. Thistletown Middle School (Catherine Smith), 2. Branksome Hall School (Marion Cook), 3. Fern Avenue Public School (David M. Legget).

CLASS 218, ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHOIRS, Grade 4:

1. Richview Jr. School (Mrs. K. Fife), 2. Havergal College (Mrs. E. Muir), 3. Kingsview Village (T. Belchamber).

CLASS 188, JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL CHOIRS, Two Part:

1. Wilson Heights Jr. High (Jacqueline Kimel), 2. Heatherbrae Middle School (D. Dickie), 3. Willowdale Jr. High School (J. Tappenden).

CLASS 169B, SECONDARY SCHOOL CHOIRS, S.A.T.B., Grades 9 and 10 only:

1. Bluevale Collegiate Inst. (John

INSIGHT PAGE

Teachers could spend more time teaching: Trustee

By ANNE MOON
Star staff writer

Almost 2,000 North York teachers left their jobs last week to demonstrate their concern about the quality of education in the borough's secondary schools.

George McCleary, the North York Board of Education chairman, is concerned too—but he says the teachers' action was "immoral" and their arguments were "hogwash."

The teachers walked out of their classrooms at 1 p.m. April 4 to embark on "study sessions" where, meeting in school lecture halls, cafeterias and auditoriums, they voiced their fears that the education of the children would suffer because of budget cuts.

McCleary called it a "strike"—the first ever held in Ontario schools.

It drew public attention, some sharp criticism and even some financial punishment for the secondary school teachers who cancelled classes for 40,000 pupils.

The teachers said they were arguing for local autonomy—for giving North York ratepayers the right to spend additional money on education.

The province has ruled exactly how much each school board may spend, and the teachers see this as a denial of local ratepayers' rights to spend more, if they wish.

The trustees, who responded by docking half-a-day's pay (an average of \$30 based on a 200-day teaching year), said the issue was really teacher work load.

"The whole 'study session' dealt with one thing—and one thing only—pupil-teacher ratio," said McCleary, the hefty forthright chairman of the North York board.

"It was a display of strength—trying to influence our decision on pupil-teacher ratio. Thank God it didn't work."

It didn't work because on Tuesday night, the Metro trustees voted 10-7 for a slight increase in the pupil-teacher ratio in Metro's 100

secondary schools. The pupil-teacher ratio is simply the number of students per teacher.

The teachers are rallying tonight to decide on their counterattack. It could involve more sanctions against the school boards, such as further "study sessions" or a work-to-rule campaign, and might even lead to a voluntary pay cut, proposed by Scarborough teacher Dave Clark.

What is it about pupil-teacher ratio that makes some teachers consider a drop in pay?

To the administrator, pupil-teacher ratio is merely a convenient measure for assigning teachers to local boards on an equalized Metro-wide basis.

It's a mathematical formula, arrived at by dividing the number of pupils by the number of school staff who hold teaching certificates. It is not an exact indicator of class size, since each board has the freedom to deploy its staff as it pleases. So, in one school, guidance counsellors may teach classes in history or whatever, while at another, they may be full-time counsellors.

In Metro, the pupil-teacher ratio in the secondary schools will rise in September to 16.7 students for each teacher from 16.5, putting it at the present provincial average.

The board's administrators insist this slight increase will not increase class size, since the eliminated jobs of 123 teachers will be covered by assigning extra duties to teachers who now have a lighter-than-average teaching load.

Scarborough trustee James French pointed out that all school staff—janitors, secretaries and teachers—must work harder this year, as the boards trim budgets to meet provincial spending limits.

"I don't think the teachers want to shirk their responsibility. We're just asking them to make a modest increase in productivity. It's not unreasonable."

But unlike secretaries, who can type faster, teachers can't teach faster. The teacher's job can't be subjected to time and motion study techniques, according to Jeff Shifrin, a Westview Centennial Secondary School math teacher and the man who first suggested the North York "study session."

Teacher morale will be affected by an increase in work load, and that will indirectly affect children in the classroom, he said.

Because of the increase in the pupil-teacher ratio, a class in advanced mathematics for his superior students will have to be cancelled.

He will have less time to originate new courses, and to prepare



GEORGE MCCLEARY, North York School Board's tough chairman, says teachers' arguments against budget cuts are "hogwash" and "immoral."

lessons and mark exams and homework.

Teachers will be more fatigued and less able to meet the demands of their students, he argued.

However, statistics show that the teachers' work load has steadily decreased. In 1968, 36 per cent of North York's teachers taught for fewer than 26 periods a week or less than 17 hours. (The typical school has 45 periods a week.)

But this school year, 56 per cent of North York teachers teach less than 17 hours a week. The provincial average shows 32 per cent of teachers face a class for less than 17 hours a week.

Dwight Daigneault, president of the North York branch of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation, insists that work load or class size or pupil-teacher ratio do not comprise the real issue.

They are merely the effects of the provincial government's decision to set spending limits for all

school boards—a decision that is forcing the Metro area boards to cut \$7.3 million from their proposed 1972 operating budget of \$374 million (This budget is up \$24 million from last year, but is still not enough to pay the increased costs of salaries and services, the teachers argue.)

"The impression has been created that all we're interested in is the pupil-teacher ratio," Daigneault said, in his office at Westview, where he is a guidance counsellor. "That's false. We're concerned with the ceilings and how they affect the educational product."

He is convinced that Education Minister Tom Wells will let Metro spend more, if the public pressure is great enough.

He believes that local taxpayers should be returned the right to pay additional taxes for education, if that's what they want.

"Where else does the government dictate what a person can do



DWIGHT DAIGNEAULT, president of the North York secondary school teachers' federation, says,

"We intend to keep on fighting." He said teachers are worried about "the educational product."

with his money? People should have the choice of spending their money in the way they want to spend it."

He said North York has been an educational leader because its ratepayers, through their school trustees, have approved additional education taxes, above the basic Metro tax levy.

During their campaign to solicit support for their "study sessions," which were open to the public, the teachers warned of the possibility of dire effects from the provincial spending limits.

"Your child's educational future may be severely jeopardized," they said in advertisements and flyers sent home with children.

They listed eight possible repercussions, which were shot down as "alarmist propaganda and hogwash" by McCleary.

The teachers said there could be significant increases in class size. Not so, said McCleary.

They threatened possible reductions in psychological services, library services, classes for new Canadians, and guidance personnel. It won't happen, said McCleary.

There will be some reduction in classroom teachers, but that won't affect class size. There will be some cuts in classroom supplies.

A few new courses will not be started, but that's because not enough students signed up, McCleary pointed out.

Ever since the teachers announced their "study session," McCleary has labelled it an "irresponsible strike."

Not even every teacher supported it.

One of them, John Bevan at Victoria Park Secondary School, carried on his art classes.

"My first duty is to my students and my second is to the board that employs me," he said later.

Most North York teachers are convinced they did the right thing,

by cancelling classes at 1 p.m. and inviting the community into the schools.

People are now talking about the provincial ceilings, said Shifrin. "Do you think we'd have got any headlines if the study sessions had been at 8 p.m.?"

But the North York teachers have had no support from any other teacher group. They are facing an increase in pupil-teacher ratio, and there has been no further lowering of the ceilings on spending.

"We intend to keep on fighting," said Daigneault, the teacher group's 35-year-old president who took a 50 per cent cut in pay to return to teaching from industry five years ago.

The fight will heat up again in September, when teachers contemplate the effects of 1973 budget cuts, he said.

"And if we can't convince the community of our concern, then we've lost the fight."

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